

2003 National Science Foundation Summer Research Program in Solid State Chemistry

Shiou-Jyh Hwu, Clemson University, DMR-0118443

The PI and two co-PI's (Profs. Angus P. Wilkinson of Georgia Tech and Hanno zur Loye of the U. of South Carolina) hosted a group of fourteen faculty and students of undergraduate colleges across the nation for the ten-week Summer Research Program in Solid State Chemistry. This program, consisting of 27 host research labs residing in nearly 20 states, collectively offered first-hand laboratory experiences to faculty and students from institutions where an advanced research program in solid-state materials chemistry is unavailable. The inclusion of faculty from undergraduate institutions within the program helped promote the integration of the concepts and techniques of solid-state chemistry with well-established traditional chemistry curricula that are based upon molecular concepts.

<http://chemistry.clemson.edu/nsfsrpssc.html>



The group photo showing the 2003 participants, instructors and organizers in front of the Chemistry Building at Clemson University.

Participants devoted the summer period to tutorials on solid state chemistry, and to research on individual projects in host laboratories across the U.S. At the end of the program period, each participant presented the results of these efforts in a final symposium held at Clemson University.

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Education:

Two faculty/student research teams (Dr. J. H. Acquaye/J. A. Moore, University of Redlands; Dr. J. P. Jasinski/ L.M. Bennett, Keene State College) studied at research institutions (Prof. R. Kaner/U. of California, Los Angeles and Prof. B. Foxman/Brandeis U.) close to their home university. The relationships developed over the summer period are likely to provide the undergraduate faculty member with access to specialized equipment during the normal school year and, potentially, could lead to joint research ventures in the future. Ultimately, it will lead to changes in undergraduate curricula that better prepare chemistry students for further study and careers in solid state science.

Outreach:

By encouraging more chemistry students to pursue graduate degrees or industrial positions in areas allied to solid state chemistry we will be enhancing the skill base in an area of vital importance to the US economy.



Participants visiting Oak Ridge National Laboratory during the tutorial, in part, to acquire information concerning career opportunities in solid state research.